



Using a board game to study the role of identity, altruism and selfishness in decision-making processes of hydropolitics in the Jordan River Basin

paper presented at the Workshop 18: Experiments in Decision-Making and Governance Institutions at the 17th Nordic Political Science Association (NOPSA) conference, 13-14 August, Goteborg, Sweden

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Publication date:
2014

Document version
Early version, also known as pre-print

Citation for published version (APA):
Wessels, J. I. (2014). *Using a board game to study the role of identity, altruism and selfishness in decision-making processes of hydropolitics in the Jordan River Basin: paper presented at the Workshop 18: Experiments in Decision-Making and Governance Institutions at the 17th Nordic Political Science Association (NOPSA) conference, 13-14 August, Goteborg, Sweden.* Paper presented at NOPSA XVII, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Arbetsgrupper NOPSA-konferensen

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Göteborg 12-15 augusti 2014

**Workshops - Nordic Political Science
Association Conference**

—

Göteborg, Sweden 12-15 August 2014

Workshop 1

Political Science Research in the Arctic

The most recent research regarding Arctic relations relates to extractive industries, indigenous people's rights, defence and security policy, and climate change. In this working group we would like to focus on political, social and innovative aspects of the challenging developments taking place in the Arctic. Local, regional, national and global points of views are welcome. By the 'Arctic' we understand the following geographical and political definition: Greenland, the Faeroe Islands, and Iceland, northern parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia including Nunavut and Northwest Territories, Canada and Alaska, USA. Regarding the political definition this also includes some international organizations and countries operating in the area, such as, the European Union (EU), the Arctic Council, the Barents-Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC), China, Japan and South Korea.

Language: Papers can be delivered in the following languages: English, Swedish, Danish and Norwegian. The conversation in the working group will be according to the language everyone feels comfortable with.

Target groups: Researchers in the field.

Aim for the working group: In the long term we aim to publish a thematic issue in a relevant journal.

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Arbeidsgruppe 2

Konsolidering, konkurranse og institusjonalisering: Den politiske utviklingen i Sentral- og Øst-Europa 25 år etter Berlinmurens fall

Arbeidsgruppa inviterer nordiske forskere til å presentere arbeider som omhandler den politiske utviklingen i postkommunistiske land. 25 år etter overgangen fra kommunisme er mange ulike typer politiske regimer representert i denne regionen – fra de mer eller mindre konsoliderte demokratiene i Sentral- og Øst-Europa via skjøre demokratier og halvautoritære stater til konsoliderte autoritære regimer. Innenfor rammen av både demokratiske og mindre demokratiske regimer er det valgt ulike institusjonelle løsninger, og framveksten av partier og partisystemer varierer selv mellom konsoliderte demokratier. Denne variasjonen er interessant fra en statsvitenskapelig synsvinkel, ikke bare empirisk, men også teoretisk.

Arbeidsgruppa dekker et bredt geografisk nedslagsfelt og er åpen for bidrag som omhandler den politiske utviklingen i hele den postkommunistiske regionen, fra demokratiene i Sentral-Europa til de autoritære regimene i Sentral-Asia. Vi ser gjerne at bidragene har et eksplisitt komparativt siktemål, men også casestudier av ulike slag er velkomne. Bidrag kan for eksempel handle om utvikling og konsolidering av partisystemer i demokratiske stater, høyre-radikale partier, forholdet mellom partier og eliter, det sivile samfunn, EU-tilpasning, borgernes politiske holdninger og forholdet mellom politiske institusjoner og demokratisk konsolidering (eller mangel på sådan).

Vi tar sikte på at 3–4 av bidragene til arbeidsgruppa publiseres i et spesialnummer av Nordisk Østforum. De som er interessert i dette bør skrive på et skandinavisk språk.

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Workshop 3

Political elites and representation: individual actors in context

Research on political representation in the European context is often focused on political parties, with the Responsible Party Model (RPM) as a normative guideline. Political parties, however, are not anonymous organisation, but function because many individuals are willing to put themselves forward as party members and candidates and commit time and passion into political activities. In recent years, the awareness of the impact of elected MPs and candidates in shaping the link between representatives and their constituencies has increased. Alongside the renewed interest in the personal dimension of representation the role and importance of the political context has been emphasized. Contextual factors, such as the electoral system and party characteristics, provide important prerequisites for individual political actors and their actions within the representative process.

In this panel we ask how contextual factors are associated with the behaviour and attitudes of individual candidates within modern representative democracies. We invite empirically driven papers that examine the role of individual candidates and MPs from a wide range of perspectives, for example campaign strategies, personal vote seeking behaviour, perceptions of representation, policy representation and party cohesion. Comparative papers that consider the role of institutional-level factors such as the electoral system, as well as party characteristics, are especially welcome.

We propose this workshop to be in English as we would like to attract scholars both from the Nordic countries and from countries outside the Nordic sphere.

Keywords; career paths of individual candidates, representational roles, policy representation, party coherence, institutional context and party characteristics.

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Workshop 4

New insights in the study of electoral behavior and turnout

Extensive individual- and aggregate-level meta-analyses have shown that turnout is connected to an array of factors. Numerous studies have suggested an association between voting and age, socio-economic resources, religiosity, party identification, gender, political interest and political knowledge. Others have identified institutional arrangements and contextual features that influence turnout including the electoral system, the economy, the political culture in a country, and the closeness of elections. Far from being exhaustive, however, interesting new findings on electoral behavior and turnout keep on emerging. Recently, for example, it has been shown that the effect of education on various aspects of political participation may be relative, being conditioned by the level of education in a person's environment or by his/her position in social networks. Other recent contributions have elaborated the assumed causal link between education and turnout. Education appears to be proxy for pre-adult experiences factors since differences in political engagement can be found even before entering higher education. With regard to vote choices, education may have, however, become more important over the past decades.

In addition, recent accounts of electoral behavior and turnout have suggested some completely new independent variables such as genes, personality traits and physical health. There is also lot to be learned regarding social networks and electoral behaviour. Not only is voting transmitted from parents to child, children may motivate political engagement among their parents, and peers living in the same household can influence each other.

The workshop warmly welcomes studies examining all aspects of electoral behaviour and turnout from institutional-, neighbourhood-, network- or individual-level perspectives or a combination of the various levels. We also encourage comparative approaches. Papers utilising data from national election studies, government registers, or natural or survey experiments are particularly appreciated.

Targeted groups:

Nordic and Canadian scholars working in the field of voting and elections, parties and various types of political behaviour.

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Workshop 5

Contested governance in divided cities: conflict resolution, democracy and the everyday

The city is used as prism for understanding political processes of conflict, segregation and division as well as conflict resolution, democratization and governance. The urban space is a convenient and tractable 'diagnostic site' for studying such complex and multidimensional phenomena and processes.

Divided cities comprise territorial and non-territorial divisions, layers of conflicted meanings, as well as urban forms and spatial practices. Endemic to them are aspects of power but also resistance against power. To conceptualize divides in cities this workshop invites papers that explores structures, processes or agencies and empirically investigate how conflict, identity construction and 'othering', as well as power relations and everyday practices are expressed in the urban space producing segregation, discrimination, marginalization and eventually a city with visible or invisible divides. The workshop welcomes empirical as well as theoretical elaborations on contested issues in divided cities for example urban planning, education, and housing.

Furthermore, the workshop explores how conflict and asymmetric power relations in divided cities can be addressed by a variety of local stakeholders in mature democracies as well as in consolidating or fragile democracies. It raises questions such as what ways and under what circumstances do urban structures, processes and agencies function as obstacles to conflict resolution, integration, tolerance and solidarity. The urban space may provide an opportunity to translate democratization and conflict resolution theories to micro-level analysis and it may function as a site for fusion of theory and practice.

The ambition of this workshop is thus to map processes and institutions related to local democracy, urban governance and grass-root conflict transformation to distinguish functional from dysfunctional ones in terms of their potential effects on democracy, equality, social solidarity, tolerance and integration. Papers with various theoretical perspectives derived from peace and conflict studies, democracy studies, public administration as well as urban studies and urban planning can bring new and important understandings to the city as a dynamic space for fostering democratic practices, social coherence and peaceful conflict resolution.

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Workshop 6

Political Trust: Explanations, Manifestations and Trends

The debate around the question of why some people participate in politics and others do not has increased over the past decades. A variety of explanations have been offered of which one specific aspect concerns citizens' judgments of trust in both the political system and its actors. The empirical evidence suggests that while voter turnout in general has decreased other forms of civic engagement and voting for (radical right-wing) protest parties have risen in European political systems. In the literature there still seems to be space for further investigations on how political trust and participation are related. Theoretically, lack of political and institutional trust could lead to various types of manifestations: abstention, engagement in new social movements, or casting a ballot to an anti-establishment party, whether on the left or right of the political spectrum. We warmly welcome theoretical studies on the concept of political trust, as well as empirical papers that take on different methodological techniques. Approaches concentrating on the various expressions and trends of (declining or balanced) political trust either at the micro- or the macro level are also encouraged.

The language of the papers and the workshop is English.

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Workshop 7

The Rise of Anti-Establishment Parties in the Nordic Countries: Causes and Consequences

Anti-establishment (AE) parties – right-wing populist parties, green parties, pirate parties, and radical left parties, among others – have been increasingly successful in post-industrial societies over the last three decades. The Nordic countries are no exception. In Finland, the True Finns more than quadrupled their electoral support in the 2010 national election. In Denmark, the Unity List scored all-time high in the 2011 national elections, while the Danish People's Party has very influential in Danish politics as a parliamentary support party for the liberal conservative government from 2001 until 2011. In Sweden, the support for Sweden Democrats has increased further after the party entered the parliament in 2010. In Norway, the Progress Party has become an integrated part of the party system, and in Iceland, a completely new party, the Best Party, finished ahead of the Conservatives in Reykjavik municipality elections in 2010.

This workshop focuses on two analytically separate yet connected questions. First, what are the main causes explaining the rise of AE-parties? Second, and equally important when measuring party success, have there been any consequences of their rise?

The extensive literature provides no clear-cut answers to neither of these two questions. In the literature trying to explain the electoral support, some scholars focus on demand-side factors, such as social background, voter ideology and attitudes, and issue saliency, whereas others are more interested in the effects of the political opportunity structure, including the electoral system, mainstream party positions and strategic behavior, type of welfare system. More recently, so-called party centered factors (e.g. ideology, party age, organization and leadership) have also been deemed important in explaining the support for AE-parties. In the literature measuring the impact from AE-parties, there are also a variety of different perspectives. Some scholars look at impact from a party competition perspective, whereas others are more interested in the effects on policy outcomes or the political discourse more broadly. To what extent AE-parties have been able to influence policy, the position of mainstream parties, and public attitudes in the Nordic countries, however, remains dubious.

This workshop is open for all scholars working on different AE-parties in the Nordic countries and abroad, and we welcome both qualitative and quantitative papers that focus on the causes and consequences of AE-parties. We encourage participants to adopt “mainstream” perspectives in order to contribute to our understanding of voting behavior, party impact and party success more generally.

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Workshop 8

Political communication: antecedents, contents and effects of political information

In today's mediatized society, the media have become a political institution. Citizens experience politics through the news media and through new communication channels, which can influence attitudes, opinions and behavior. Politicians see the media as an important political actor, which can set the political agenda and can make or break the careers of political candidates. Recent trends like the professionalization of political communication, commercialization of media outlets and the growing role of the internet and social media have raised important questions about the changing role of communication in politics.

In very general terms, political science has tended to downplay the role of the media and communication in the political process, despite evidence showing that the media can have significant effects. Communication science and media studies have tended to study the media separate from the political context.

In the Nordic countries research agendas on political communication have emerged in both communication science and political science departments. It is the explicit goal of this workshop to bring together social scientists working on issues of political communication. We welcome paper proposals that deal with the *antecedents* of political news and actor-controlled political information, papers about *contents* and systematic features of political news as well as other genres dealing with politics, and papers dealing with the *effects* of the media and mediated political information on the political process and on attitudes, opinions and behavior.

This workshop wants to continue the work in the successful political communication workshops at the last two NOPSA meetings. It takes a starting point in the Nordic countries – focusing on new research agendas and changes in political communication – but is explicitly open for international scholars. The working language of the workshop will be English.

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Arbetsgrupp 9

Nordisk socialdemokrati – från dominans till anpassning?

Politiska partier tvingas i stort sett kontinuerligt hantera förändrade förhållanden. År 1991 utkom boken "Social Democracy in Transition" - som diskuterade nya ideologiska, väljarmässiga och kontextuella förutsättningar för nordisk och europeisk socialdemokrati. Drygt 20 år senare är det uppenbart att nordisk socialdemokrati ännu en gång måste hantera drastiskt förändrade villkor. Från att ha utgjort en dominerande politisk kraft i Danmark, Sverige och Norge möter socialdemokratin vikande väljarstöd, ideologisk konkurrens, nya partier och förändrade partisystem. I samtliga nordiska länder (utom Island) är numera invandrarkritiska populistiska partier etablerade; i samtliga partisystem utgör borgerliga partier och regeringskoalitioner snarare mittenalternativ som bygger på vissa delar av socialdemokratiska grundprinciper än krafter för fullständiga systemskiften. I samtliga nordiska länder ligger socialdemokratin nära sina lägsta opinionsvärden någonsin. I Danmark återvann visserligen regeringsmakten 2011 men har fått se opinionsstödet vika katastrofalt. I Norge utmanas socialdemokratin 2013 allvarligt av de borgerliga som alltmer sneglar åt till Framskrittpartiet som samarbetspartner. På Island förlorade socialdemokraterna halva väljarstödet i valet 2013 och möter utmaningar också i form av utbrytningar. I Sverige kan hösten 2014 en borgerlig regeringskoalition för första gången någonsin vinna ett tredje val i rad. I Finland går socialdemokraterna ofta i regeringskoalitioner över blockgränsen men i valet 2011 försvagades partiet och nådde sitt sämsta resultat sedan 1962. Partiet har dessutom ett hastigt växande invandrar- och etablissemangskritiskt parti att förhålla sig till.

Arbetsgruppen välkomnar bl.a. uppsatser, paper och artiklar som rör socialdemokratisk ideologisk och strategisk utveckling givet förändrade partisystem samt sådana texter som rör socialdemokratiska partiers relation till väljarna, gärna i ljuset av minskande medlemskåren

Målgruppen är partiforskare från hela Norden och vi tror att temat är intressant för ett stort antal kolleger.

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Arbetsgrupp 10

Politologisk metodologi: utveckling och utmaningar

Under de senaste decennierna har nya metoder för studier av politik introducerats och utvecklats. Alternativ till traditionella upplägg tillämpas också alltmer, såsom experiment och panelstudier. Parallellt med denna utveckling har utmaningarna för etablerade metoder och upplägg ökat. Exempelvis kämpar allt fler studier med svarsbortfall, samtidigt som nya former för enkätstudier har utvecklats. Arbetsgruppen fokuserar därför på de möjligheter och begränsningar som följer med den metodologiska utvecklingen inom ämnet. Ambitionen är att erbjuda möjligheter att utifrån olika perspektiv diskutera metodologiska frågor i förhållande till utvecklingen inom området.

Arbetsgruppen välkomnar uppsatser som genom tillämpning presenterar nya metoder, problematiserar metoder, jämför betydelsen av olika metoder eller som aktualiserar metodologiska frågor genom att problematisera diskussioner. Exempelvis kan uppsatser presentera olika försök att operationalisera begrepp eller jämföra utfallet av olika analysmetoder, men uppsatser som diskuterar forskningsdesign eller metodologi för kommande studier är också relevanta för arbetsgruppen. Särskilt välkomnas uppsatser som diskuterar hur underlag kan insamlas via nya källor, såsom twitter eller webbaserade aktiviteter, eller hur underlag från nya källor kan analyseras. Även uppsatser som ger översikter över metodologiska diskussioner eller trender har särskild relevans för arbetsgruppen.

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Workshop 11

Power and the political

The aim of the workshop is to further debates on power and the political, their relationships and to carry out studies of the two. The workshop gains its inspiration from poststructuralist discourse theory, Ernesto Laclau's work and Foucault in particular, but is open to other approaches that seek to theorize power and/or the political and their connection to the contexts of investigation. In broad terms Foucault's work focuses on questions of governing, the more silent, micro day to day workings of political power, whereas Laclau's work directs the attention to moments of rupture, the creation of broader popular movements and identities.

Papers are invited which compare the two approaches, as well as papers reflecting on the concepts of politics and power following from either, or compared with other approaches. We welcome (however do not limit the range of papers to) contributions from post-Marxist, post-foundational, feminist, postcolonial or psychoanalytic research traditions.

The aim of the workshop is to question any taken-for-granted nature of these two dimensions in the study of politics, and to help make explicit what is implied – theoretically and methodologically – in the different approaches. How we might study politics is intimately related to the reflections on the nature of the political and power, and *vice versa*.

The language of the workshop is English, to in particular welcome international scholars working in the Nordic countries.

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Workshop 12

Was Plato Right? Should the Experts Rule?

Democracy as an overall model for how societies should be governed has been a remarkable success over the last forty years. More countries than ever are now considered to be democratic or at least on their way to becoming democracies. There are certainly many reasons to be enthusiastic about this historically extraordinary development. The enthusiasm is, however, dampened by several empirical results about the actual performance of democracies. One is that, as it can be measured, democracy as such seems not to increase human well-being. Most standard measures of human well-being either have a very weak, or no, or sometimes even negative, correlation with standard measures of the level of democracy. Another problem is that many democratic states have problems getting corruption and clientelism under control and also to manage their public finances in a sustainable way. One effect of these performance problems is that representative democracy in many countries as well as in important international organizations such as the EU is challenged by “the rule of experts”, also known as “epistocracy”. Rule by experts, it is argued, is more likely to increase the quality of government making states and international organizations able to produce policies that increases economic growth, decreases the level of corruption, handles deficit problems in public finances and more generally improves human well-being. These developments are paralleled by the recent “epistemic turn” in political theory where familiar normative justifications of democracy, stressing the inherent value of democratic norms and procedures, are challenged by accounts focusing on outcome rationality and the indispensable role of expertise for political decision-making. Thus the question Plato raised - why not rule by the most knowledgeable instead of rule by the many - is again a central issue in both political theory and in empirical research. The purpose of this workshop is to shed light on the relation between democracy, quality of government and epistocracy. Our aim is to bring together research in political philosophy about “expert rule” and epistemic democracy and the research on the quality of government and the ability of representative democracy to produce normatively valued outcomes.

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Workshop 13

Innovative research on public opinion and political behavior

There are now several strong political science research groups across the Nordic countries that work on survey data. This workshop invites papers using such data in innovative ways. Papers analyzing panel-data, survey experiments, or new survey measures are particularly welcome. Contributions may address a wide range of research questions within the field of political behavior and public opinion such as (but not confined to) electoral participation, voting, political communication effects, as well as public opinion formation. In the light of the strong survey traditions in many countries and the large data series that have been established, e.g., as part of the national election studies, a key purpose of the workshop will be to share and discuss how to best take advantage of new possibilities emerging with webpanels and the widespread use of randomized survey experiments, while ensuring that the qualities of old infrastructures are maintained. By presenting novel research in this Nordic forum, we aim to inspire comparative projects within the region. The workshop welcomes submissions from beginning as well as established scholars who are interested in the topics outlined.

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Workshop 14

Party participation in plural

The aim of the workshop is to reach a more multifaceted understanding of party activism by looking beyond the traditional concept of formally enrolled, card-carrying, dues-paying party membership. The number of party members is a common indicator of party participation and the extent to which parties are able to form a channel of participation within representative democracy; these figures are in decline across most parties and countries. However, party members vary in their participation both across parties, across time and across countries. Furthermore, within parties there is no simple division between members and activists. Party membership has a 'polymorphic nature' and varies both in degree, type and intensity.

However, the concept of party membership and hence the understanding of party activism is not only challenged by the diversified nature of how party members participate within their parties. A more severe challenge is the way in which parties have opened up for participation by other supporters. Adherents are attracted and attached in other ways than by the formal party membership; the distinction between members and supporters is becoming blurred.

The blurring of the distinction between dues-paying, card-carrying party members and party supporters has further been facilitated by the newer information and communication technologies. Parties have minimized printed member magazines and instead provide information on their web sites and via Facebook. These online supporters get information before everybody else, are mobilized for campaigns and act as parties' ambassadors to the community both online and offline. And they are a lot less costly than a traditional membership organization.

This more recent development calls for analyses of the relationship between offline and online party activism, the blurring of the distinction between party members and party supporters and the multifaceted nature of party member activism. What's the current understandings of party membership and party 'supportership' in the eyes of both parties, party members and party supporters such as Facebook followers, non-enrolled party activists and party identifiers? What's the difference between members and supporters in regard to the degree and type of participation, representativeness, and reasons for activism? What is the difference in costs and benefits of having members and other party activists in the perspective of the parties?

The workshop aims to attract comparative studies across time, parties and/or countries as well as single case studies from colleagues looking into both party membership, party organizations and the application of newer technologies within politics.

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Workshop 15

Citizenship, participation and learning

Comprehensive social and political processes currently influence the role of citizens in democracy. Such processes determine citizens' social and political inclusion in the polity, as they shape their attitudes and behaviors. The impact of these realities is obvious in citizens' learning process and the understanding of the citizenship itself. Among such changes, globalization opens up lines of communications (new media) and new networks, changes national and personal identities, and expands the arenas and means of participation. Migration increases pluralism, which in turn fuels debates on rights, social inclusion and exclusion, and citizens' means of social and political participation. The current financial crises serve to remind us that democracies are vulnerable and dependent on the trust, participation, and engagement of their citizens. Some states also experience political tension, and religious and political extremism is increasing among some citizens. Further, young people continue to find new forms of participation and show a tendency to favor virtual and more occasional involvement in democracy.

The changing role of citizens also has implications for research on citizenship and citizenship learning. Historically, from the time of Ancient Greece to our modern world, citizens have claimed the right to political participation and self-governance. Beyond membership of a community, citizenship also implies an increased focus on civic virtues, commitments, and responsibilities. Furthermore, the questions of citizenship are highly ideological, where liberal, republican, and communitarian views of democracy and citizenship differ with respect to citizens' freedom, participation, solidarity, democratic legitimacy, and cultural and political cohesion.

In this proposal we have pointed out that a variety of conceptualizations of citizenship and we therefore welcome research on citizenship as well as citizenship learning in various arenas. There is also scope for research related to barriers to citizenship, and ways in which young people are learning informally and online. Furthermore, we welcome research on how people perceive democracy, their role of participation, and how they can become effective in social and political affairs. Additionally, research on gender aspects in citizenship is relevant.

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Arbeidsgruppe 16

Forvaltningspolitikk og reformer i offentlig sektor: Ansvar, samordning og kvaliteten til offentlige myndigheter.

Temaet for denne arbeidsgruppen er hvordan forvaltningsreformer har påvirket politiske og demokratisk styring og relasjonen mellom staten og borgerne. Slike reformer har for eksempel vært rettet mot ledelse og organisasjonsformer fra privat sektor; mål- og resultatstyring, selskapsdanning og etablering av semi-autonome myndigheter. De har vært mindre opptatt av hvordan man kan vedlikeholde og utvikle mekanismer for politisk ansvar. New Public Management reformer, så vel som post-NPM reformer, har påvirket balansen mellom management ansvar, og politisk, legalt, profesjonelt og sosialt ansvar på tvers av politikkområder, forvaltningsnivå og land. Utfordringene knyttet til flerdimensjonale ansvarsrelasjoner og hvordan ansvarsrelasjoner påvirker balansen mellom input og output legitimitet vil bli undersøkt. Sentralt i denne sammenhengen er forholdet mellom NPM reformer og 'the quality of government'.

Ansvarsrelasjoner er spesielt utfordrende for såkalte 'wicked problems' som ikke kan håndteres uten gjennom samarbeid på tvers av organisasjoner, forvaltningsnivå og politikkområder. Et formål med denne arbeidsgruppen er å undersøke framvoksende samordningsarrangement for å håndtere slike grenseoverskridende problemområder. Det kan for eksempel gjelde klima, samfunnssikkerhet, arbeidsledighet, fattigdom, folkehelse og innvandring.

I dag står vi ofte overfor hybride reformer som fører til økt kompleksitet i offentlig forvaltning. Reformene er sjelden rendyrkede men har elementer av tradisjonell offentlig forvaltning, New Public Management, 'the Neo-Weberian state' og New Public Governance. Et sentralt spørsmål er hva effektene er av slike hybride organisasjonsløsninger på ansvars-relasjoner og myndighetenes virkemåte.

Paper kan være deskriptive eller forklarende og bør ha en klar begrepsmessig og teoretisk basis og metodisk fundament. Komparative paper på tvers av land over tid, forvaltningsnivåer, offentlige organisasjoner eller politikkområder er spesielt velkomne. Paper knyttet til reformer innenfor arbeid og sysselsetting, sykehus og helse, og innvandring er spesielt velkomne.

Arbeidsgruppen inviterer forskere på feltene forvaltningspolitikk og forvaltningsreformer, velferdsstatsforskning, offentlig administrasjon, offentlig politikk og 'public management'.

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Arbeidsgruppe 17

Urfolk: deltakelse, representasjon, internasjonalisering

Gjennom de siste årtiene har urfolk fått økende politisk betydning. For det første har en betydelig politisk mobilisering funnet sted blant urfolk. Urfolk verden rundt har trådt fram som politiske aktører, blant annet for å fremme interesser knyttet til selvbestemmelse og kontroll over naturressurser. For det andre har stater svart på denne utfordringen på ulikt vis. Noen steder er separate institusjoner opprettet for å sikre urfolks politiske representasjon, andre steder er urfolks deltakelse forsøkt ivarettatt innenfor rammen av eksisterende politiske institusjoner. For det tredje har moderne urfolkspolitikk i økende grad blitt internasjonalisert, gjennom urfolkssamarbeid på tvers av landegrenser og ved deltakelse i internasjonale fora. Mange urfolksgupper bruker også den internasjonale arenaen strategisk for å nå fram overfor nasjonale myndigheter.

I de nordiske landene finner vi interessante eksempler på institusjoner for urfolksrepresentasjon. I Finland, Norge og Sverige er det opprettet sameting. Dette er organer for ikke-territoriell representasjon – representative forsamlinger valgt av og blant landets samer. Det er likevel betydelige forskjeller mellom de tre sametingenes utforming og myndighet. Innenfor den danske staten finner vi en territorielt avgrenset ordning, der Grønland har utviklet sitt hjemmestyre til et utvidet selvbestemmelsessystem. I arbeidsgruppa ønsker vi bidrag både om de nordiske landene og andre deler av verden.

Tematisk ønsker vi en arbeidsgruppe med bidrag som belyser ett eller flere av de tre aspektene nevnt ovenfor: *politisk deltakelse og mobilisering, representative organer og politikkutforming, og internasjonalt samarbeid*. Bidrag om samspillet mellom disse vil være svært velkomne. Vi er også interessert i bidrag om den historiske utviklingen av urfolks deltakelse og representasjon, og om medienes dekning av urfolksspørsmål. Bidrag til arbeidsgruppa kan være så vel case-studier som komparative studier av flere land og regioner, eller statistiske analyser.

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Workshop 18

Experiments in Decision-Making and Governance Institutions

In recent years, the experimental methodology has increased in popularity as questions of political psychology, including individual level decision-making, have progressively reached the political science agenda. Laboratory as well as survey, field and natural experiments help us to overcome problems of causality, and the experimental design enables us to explore otherwise endogenous psychological questions. These include, for example, focus on the effect of democratic deliberation and debate, cognitive limitations in politics as well as decision-making under uncertainty or with in-complete information. This working group encompasses experimental work on governance institutions and democratic decision-making in broad terms. It focuses on results from field, survey, laboratory and natural experiments. Contributions addressing the experimental methodology within the study of governance institutions and democratic decision-making or relate to the work of political psychology are welcomed.

Target groups: Researchers using experimental methodologies to explore questions about governance institutions (in broad terms) or more specifically on political decision-making, democratic institutions and political psychology.

Language: To accommodate the increased numbers of English speaking in the Scandinavian academic community, the working group meetings and presentations will be conducted in English. However, papers are accepted in Danish, Norwegian and Swedish along with English.

Expected contribution: Participants should upload a paper prior the meeting (August 2014) as well as present it at the meeting. We assign discussants to each paper. The organizers chair the sessions.

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Arbetsgrupp 19

Nordiskt samarbete I utrikes-, säkerhets- och försvarspolitik/

Nordic cooperation in foreign, security and defence policy

Nordic defence cooperation has since the start of NORDEFECO in 2009 made headlines in a surprising way. Nordic cooperation has a long history and has for a long time been rather uninteresting not only for the general public or politicians, but also for the scientific community. What is even more remarkable with the current situation is that it is defence, traditionally excluded from Nordic cooperation, that now seems to be its most promising aspect, and also very popular with people in the Nordic countries. At the same time, there is more interest in the possibilities of Nordic cooperation in foreign and security policy, be it in the Arctic, in diplomacy, in peacekeeping and crisis management. It is also time to encourage more research on these questions. This workshop aims to gather researchers working on different aspects of Nordic cooperation in the field of foreign, security and defence policy, its past, present and future prospects. Papers are invited from different academic disciplines, including political science, history and law. They may tackle the question of explaining the new interest in such cooperation; they may be comparative and, for instance, assess its possible function as a model for other international organisations. Likewise, papers contextualizing Nordic cooperation in this field are welcome, including the international context (for instance, Nordic cooperation at the UN, cooperation in diplomacy, also in relation to the EEAS), as well as analyses of possible consequences of such cooperation on, e.g., Nordic identity. The workshop intends to gather both Nordic and non-Nordic scholars in order also to explore further possibilities of research cooperation.

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Arbeidsgruppe 20/ Workshop 20

Nordisk helsepolitikk / Nordic Health Policy

Livsstilsendringer, rusproblemer, psykiske lidelser, flere eldre og et økende antall personer med kroniske og sammensatte lidelser stiller helsevesenet overfor store utfordringer. Utviklingen av ny medisinsk teknologi og nye behandlingsmuligheter gir håp for pasienter og pårørende, men samtidig skaper denne utviklingen også store forventninger til helsevesenet, og store økonomiske og politiske utfordringer for helsepolitikkerne. En rekke reformer er iverksatt for å møte denne utviklingen, som den danske strukturreformen og de norske sykehus- og samhandlingsreformene. Siktemålet har vært å effektivisere helsetjenestene og skape en bedre koordinering mellom ulike tjenester og nivåer i helsevesenet. Oppmerksomheten rettes også i større grad mot folkehelse, forebyggende og helsefremmende arbeid.

Arbeidsgruppen vil særlige rette oppmerksomheten mot bakgrunn, utforming og effekter av reformer og tiltak for å forbedre flernivåstyringen, organiseringen og samhandlingen mellom spesialisthelsetjenesten, primærhelsetjenesten, det forebyggende arbeidet og/eller frivillig sektor. Gruppen er åpen for studier av ulike sider ved helsepolitikken i enkeltland, men komparative analyser er særlig velkomne. De sammenlignende studiene kan også omfatte ikke-nordiske land.

Changing lifestyles, drug problems, mental sufferings, a growing number of elderly people and people with multiple and chronic deceases represent new challenge to the health care system. The development of new medical technologies and new possibilities of treatment give hope to patients and their relatives, but at the same time this development creates great expectations to the health care services, and vast economic and political challenges to the health care politicians. A number of reforms have been implemented in order to meet these challenges, such as the Danish structural reform of local and regional government, and the hospital- and coordination reforms in Norway. The aim has been to improve the efficiency and coordination between different types and levels of health care services. The attention is also directed towards public health, preventive work and health promotion.

The workshop will address the background, design and effects of reforms and measures to improve the multilevel governance, organization and coordination between primary and specialized health care services, preventive work and the voluntary sector. The workshop welcomes analyzes of different aspects of health care policy in single countries, but comparative studies are particularly welcome. Comparative studies may also include non-Nordic countries. Papers may be presented and discussed in English.

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Workshop 21

The European Union in the world

The EU's global role(s) are challenged by changing configurations of power, characterised by the rise of the 'emerging powers'; financial and ideational crises; and a crisis of confidence in the European project itself. Arguably, the Union has been weakened internally while being confronted by a transforming external context. Emerging multipolarity interacts with ideals of 'effective multilateralism' while an already weak European identity is challenged by economically driven member-state interests. At the same time, transformations in global economics, climate change and trans-national conflict, raise questions of the very possibility of common EU external actions.

This workshop seeks to address how these changing circumstances have affected and will affect the EU's external actions and policies, the depth of integration in this area, and the ways in which the Union is perceived and responded to in the international arena. What changes are taking place in the EU's capacity to act and how and to what extent is this capacity translated into external action? How does the EU deal with problems of coherence and legitimacy, not least when trying to link security, economic, trade and development policies? Can we observe any changes to the nature and form of integration in this domain? How has the EU adapted, in terms of strategies and coalition-building, to the 'new world order' in bi-, mini- and multilateral negotiations? Have the normative politics of peace, freedom, democracy, human rights, rule of law, equality, social solidarity, sustainable development, and good governance become less relevant in a globalising, multilateralising, and multipolarising world? Do changing circumstances affect the possibility for the EU to use normative justification and play the role of a normative power?

The workshop proposal is supported by strong research environments in Copenhagen, Göteborg, Lund and Oslo. The target group is scholars with a focus on EU foreign policy and the EU's place in the world, but more widely also researchers with an interest in a changing world order. Workshop director will be Professor Ben Rosamond at Copenhagen University, with Fredrik Söderbaum, Göteborg University as co-director, and with Ole Elgström (Lund) and Helene Sjursen (Arena, Oslo) as co-sponsors. One aim is to initiate a Nordic network of early career and senior scholars in this field of research.

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Arbeidsgruppe 22

Regional politikk i Norden – Utvikling, tendenser og framtid

Det regionale styringsnivå i Norden har gjennomgått store endringer de siste årene. For en generasjon siden hadde Norge, Sverige og Danmark en felles modell med relativt mange, folkevalgte, regionale institusjoner (fylkes/amter/landsting) med omfattende ansvar for velferdsstatlig tjenesteproduksjon (f.eks. utdanning/skole og sykehus), mens Finland hadde et uformelt mellomnivå basert på interkommunalt samarbeid. Det har aldri eksistert en felles nordisk regional modell, og i dag kan vi heller ikke snakke om en felles skandinavisk modell. De senere år har Danmark redusert antall regioner til fem, som i hovedsak driver sykehus, og hvis framtid er usikker. Norge har beholdt fylkeskommunene, men mye av tjenesteproduksjonen er overtatt av staten, og fylkeskommunene er i større grad blitt ansvarlige for regional samordning og koordinering. I Sverige har noen større regioner blitt formet gjennom initiativ nedenfra, men det regionale Sveriges framtid framstår som uavklart. Workshopen ønsker velkommen papers som empirisk eller teoretisk er opptatt av det regionale nivå i ett eller flere nordiske land. Både generelle nordiske utviklingstrekk så vel som mer landspesifikke tema vil være aktuelle. De nordiske regionale institusjonene fyller i ulik grad funksjoner som tjenesteproduksjon, regulering og koordinering. Papers kan omhandle en eller flere av disse funksjonene, men kan også diskutere eller analysere formelle politiske styringssystemer, aktuelle styringsformer og regionale prosessers demokratiske forankring.

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Workshop 23

Theorising advisers and their relation to politicians and bureaucrats

The role of advisors in politico-administrative systems differs across not only Western democracies, but also within the Nordic countries. In some countries advisers have been conceived as spin-doctors whereas in others political advisers have been an institutional element in the core policy activities of the ministries. Regardless of their title, the role of those advisors and units in traditional policy advice usually remains opaque and undertheorised. Whereas their interference with the line bureaucracy appears to cause tensions and conflicts in some countries, the relationship is rather characterized as co-operative and complementary in others.

The limited empirical knowledge on ministerial advisors and units is related to the theoretical approaches to understand the relationship between politicians, advisers and the bureaucracy. Various notions of politicisation and Public Service Bargains represent the prominent perspectives in contemporary research. Their explanatory power, however, needs to be enhanced. So far, the factors accounting for either a conflict-laden or co-operative relationship appear unclear. The panel seeks to discuss factors explaining the relationship politicians, advisers and the bureaucracy.

The panel welcomes papers on the relationship between politicians, bureaucrats and advisors and on the role of advisors and advisory units in policy-making, in communication activities etc. We invite both theoretical and empirical papers, but are particularly interested in theory-based analyses with an explanatory design and an interest in theory development. We encourage comparative case studies and cross-country comparisons but also welcome single case studies.

The panel is chaired by three persons, all capable of understanding the Nordic languages: Heidi Houlberg Salomonsen, department of Political Science, Aalborg University Denmark, Thurid Hustedt, Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, University of Potsdam and Birgitta Niklasson, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg

Regarding target group the three chairs are all leading research projects on the subject and are therefore involved in various international and Nordic research networks and communities including scholars working on this subject.

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Workshop 24

International courts and domestic politics.

Since the establishment of the first permanent international court in 1922, states have created more than a hundred international judicial bodies. The trend toward international judicial institutionalization has accelerated after the end of the Cold War. States have established a cascade of international courts and tribunals, the mandates of which go well beyond peace and arbitration to cover issues as diverse as human rights, atrocities, trade and investment. And new courts are being called for in issue-areas where they do not yet exist, such as the regulation of climate change or transnational corporate wrongdoing. Moreover, in some areas, courts have arguably managed to expand their authority beyond their original mandates, and engage not only in adjudicating, interpreting and monitoring international treaty compliance, but increasingly contribute to the making of law.

From a political science perspective, this development suggests a number of challenging research puzzles, especially as international courts impact on domestic political orders. For instance, how do government, parliaments, national courts, bureaucracies and other sub-state actors and institutions interact with the new authority of international courts? How do domestic agents resist, adapt to, or utilize international judicial institutions? What challenges does this new and expanding international judiciary imply for established national constitutional democratic orders? And what role do international courts play in sustaining and developing the global order and how does this role affect politics and society?

For this workshop, we invite papers that address the impact of international judicial institutions – and the general trend toward international judicialisation – on domestic politics. We welcome papers aimed at empirical explanation or normative assessment, and particularly papers that address the Nordic countries' experience in a comparative perspective.

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Arbetsgrupp 25/ Workshop 25

Återuppbyggnad och interventioner

Arbetsgruppen fokuserar på internationella interventioner initierade av olika aktörer för att hantera behov som uppstår i krigs- och konfliktdrabbade regioner och samhällen. Det kan handla om FN:s fredsbevarande insatser i Kongo (DRC), Sydsudan eller Mali, om Afrikanska Unionens (AU) insatser i Somalia och i Darfur, Sudan, om USA:s interventioner i Irak och Afghanistan eller om NATO:s insats i Libyen. En aspekt är att analysera vilka regionala aktörer eller allianser av länder som möjliggjorde och stödde interventionerna. Arbetsgruppen är således intresserad av papper som analyserar olika typer av externa interventioner samt dynamiken mellan den internationella, nationella och lokala nivån. På vilka sätt kan man teoretiskt, metodologiskt och empiriskt analysera interventioners resultat? Vad krävs för att dessa interventioner ska kunna betraktas som "framgångsrika"? Ett övergripande problem är hur internationella aktörer samordnar sina insatser och hur väl förankrade dessa insatser är utifrån lokala förutsättningar och behov. Således kan olika aktörer stå i fokus för arbetsgruppens bidrag – internationella organisationer och samarbetsorgan, inhemska regeringar och samhällseliga institutioner, civilsamhällets aktörer, såväl som aktörer och sammanslutningar med förankring i specifika lokala kontexter. Arbetsgruppen välkomnar metodologiskt såväl som teoretiskt orienterade papper, föredragsvis med en jämförande forskningsdesign, där studiet av internationella interventioner står i fokus.

Title: Reconstruction and intervention

The overarching aim of the workshop is to examine various kinds of international interventions, which seek to address urgent needs emanating from war and conflict-ridden regions and societies. Papers may for example discuss UN peacekeeping operations in Democratic Republic Congo (DRC), in South Sudan or in Mali, or about the African Union intervention in Somalia and in Darfur, Sudan, or the United States interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan or the NATO intervention in Libya. One aspect of the papers could be to discuss which regional organizations or groups of states supported and enabled these interventions or indeed carried them out jointly with the lead actor. The workshop strives to explore external interventions by different actors and the dynamics between international, national and local levels. In what ways can we theoretically, methodological and empirically analyze the outcomes of different types interventions? To what extent and with what criterion can these interventions be evaluated as "successful"? One overarching problem is how or in what way international actors coordinate their strategies and frame their interventions according to local needs and conditions? As such a variety of actors can be focused upon in the workshop – international organizations, governments and government institutions, NGOs, as well as local actors and factions. The workshop is open for methodological as well as theoretical papers focusing on international interventions preferable with a comparative research design.

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Workshop 26

Causal effects in political science: The promise and pitfalls of experimental methods

One of the thorniest problems in political science is to identify the causal effect of reforms and policy changes. What is the effect of introducing direct mayoral elections? Of changing from a proportional to a first-past-the-post election system? Of contracting out public services? Of reorganizing the governmental bureaucracy? Of information on voter attitudes? These questions, and many similar ones, are difficult to answer because establishing causal relations is tricky in political science.

One reason is so-called policy endogeneity. Methodologically speaking the problem is bias from simultaneity (or reverse causality). Substantially speaking the problem for researchers is that reforms and policy changes are often made as a response to existing problems, leading to a loop of causality between the policy problem and the policy solution. This is not surprising. The job of civil servants and politicians is, after all, not to prepare the ground for social science but rather to solve social problems. In the process they create simultaneity problems for researchers. Adding to the problem of simultaneity, omitted variables can bias results. If important variables cannot easily be measured a statistical correlation between the independent (a policy intervention) and the dependent variable (a social problem – or vice versa) cannot be interpreted as a causal effect. The onset of a policy intervention may be caused by problem severity, but other variables harder to measure (political, motivational) may be the true cause of intervention. And improvements on a social problem from t_0 - t_1 may be caused by a policy intervention, but again other unmeasured variables may be the true cause.

Problems of endogeneity are relevant to most field in political science. The classic solution to endogeneity problems is experimental methods, which are mainstream in economics, and increasingly popular in political science.

The purpose of this workshop is to bring together researchers with an interest in experimental methods from all fields of political science to explore the potential of this research strategy. Papers may cover any topic but should be based on experimental methods. All kinds of experiments (lab, field, survey, quasi and natural) are welcome.

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Workshop 27

Managing Migration: Contemporary Nordic Experiences

Across the Nordic states, sustained and often contentious debates about the politics of migration persist. These debates highlight a number of themes, including the extent to which third-country nationals should be subject to less restrictive entry policies, the impact of EU enlargement on Nordic welfare state and labor market policy institutions, the extent to which there is a hidden gendered dimension to migration insufficiently recognized by public authorities, how specific instruments of integration should be targeted at different categories of migrants, and the potential influence of anti-immigration parties on mainstream parties. For scholars of migration policy, each of these debates presents fruitful avenues for further work on key issues central to political science, not limited to: actors and their policy preferences; agenda-setting processes; multi-level disputes over implementation responsibilities; gendered approaches to public policy; political culture, ideas and ideology, and the continued role of party systems and political parties.

As such, this workshop invites proposals that contribute to mapping more fully the diverse ways in which migration has been politicized both within, and across, Nordic states. We welcome proposals that trace the evolution of contemporary policies; those that highlight the role of specific actors in either framing, developing or implementing policies; those that explore the relationship between different levels of government when addressing migration; and those that problematize the role of discourse in framing policy alternatives, as well as in evaluating the effects of already implemented measures. Single nation case studies whose results are situated within a broader theoretical context are welcome, as are comparative studies and non-empirical contributions of a theoretical and/or normative character.

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Arbetsgrupp 28

Marknadisering i offentlig förvaltning - utmaningar för demokratin och välfärdsstaten

Den nordiska välfärdsstaten bär på olika föreställningar, värden och förhoppningar om hur den förvaltning ser ut som bäst kan förverkliga politiska beslut. Marknadisering innebär att nya typer av rollinnehavare tar plats i förvaltningen, men den innebär också nya synsätt på drivkrafter, ramverk och kompetenser inom förvaltningen. Denna arbetsgrupp fokuserar på frågor om vad marknadiseringen innebär för politikens möjliga och önskvärda roll vad gäller styrning, tjänsternas kvalitativa och jämlika fördelning samt förutsättningar för medborgarnas ansvarsutkrävande. Hur påverkas demokratisynen och förvaltningspolitiken? Får förändringarna konsekvenser för våra föreställningar och förväntningar gällande medborgarskapets innebörd och folkviljans förverkligande genom offentlig förvaltning? Vad betyder marknadiseringen för centrala demokratiska värden så som likabehandling, öppenhet och professionell integritet? Vilka föreställningar om välfärdens centrala aktörer växer fram i dessa "nya" modeller när det gäller t.ex. medborgaren, kunden, brukaren, politikern, den professionelle, byråkraten och utföraren?

Arbetsgruppen efterlyser både empiriska och teoretiska uppsatser kring dessa problem, gärna med jämförelser mellan de nordiska länderna.

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Workshop 29

Varieties of Democracy and Autocracy – Disentangling Patterns and Relationships

Since the beginning of the Third Wave, democracy has spread rapidly across the globe. Former authoritarian states have introduced competitive elections and the respect for civil liberties has improved across regions of the world. Yet, the democratic wave has not done away authoritarianism everywhere; not ruled out the 'halfway houses' of hybrid regimes; and not prevented some democracies from succumbing to political instability. Even if one applies a minimalist yardstick of democracy, only approximately one-fifth qualify as true liberal democracies while around forty percent remain autocratic. Hence, the global diversity in political regimes remains intact, and transformations from one regime form to another, like it has most recently happened during the Arab Spring, continue to puzzle political scientists.

The purpose of this workshop is to analyze questions that relate to these patterns. More specifically, the aim is to bring together junior and senior scholars to: i) investigate both the structural and actor-centered as well as the domestic and international factors that affect stability and change in autocracies, hybrid regimes and democracies; ii) scrutinize the consequences of different types of political regimes and state structures on a wider range of subjects such as economic growth, inequality, good governance, etc.; and finally, iii) strengthen the foundation for conducting such research through conceptual and theoretical innovation.

The workshop generally encourages a comparative approach, but also welcomes theoretical/conceptual papers. We would also like to use this opportunity to encourage participants to make use of a path-breaking new database on political regimes (the so-called v-dem project (<https://v-dem.net/DemoComp/en/>) developed by one of the workshop leaders in cooperation with a wide group of international scholars.

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Workshop 30

Transnational Gender Politics: Transversing the International and Domestic

Domestic and international politics are increasingly approached as transnational in political science, in the sense of being deeply affected by cross-border flows of ideas, people, goods and capital and by cross-border interactions. The transnational character of contemporary politics thus fundamentally challenges the notion of distinctive levels of analysis upon which much of political science has been premised. Gender politics is one transnationalized political area. Not only do ideas about gender (such as the appropriate roles of men and women in politics, in the family, in the military or in finance) travel across borders, but transnational networks of political actors often play an important role in the gender politics of putatively domestic and international institutions. The study of the transnational character of gender politics can thus be of central importance in complicating the levels-of-analysis foundation of political science as a discipline.

The aim of this workshop would be to bring together papers that interrogate the transnational character of what is often understood as domestic or international gender politics. One possible entry is to look at the role of transnational flows of ideas or norms in the emergence or implementation of national gender equality policies. Another might be to analyze the role of transnational coalitions, networks or movements in mobilizations around national gender issues. The workshop will be run in English, so it is particularly suitable for papers written in English with the intention of international peer review publication.

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Arbeidsgruppe 31

Kommunale reformer og organisatoriske tilpasninger – utfordringer for lokalpolitikken

Lokalpolitikken stilles overfor utfordringer både som følge av vanskelige økonomiske forhold, økt kompleksitet i de oppgavene som skal håndteres og som følge av endringer i organisering og arbeidsdeling i offentlig sektor. Dette søkes håndtert politisk og administrativt gjennom reformer og organisatoriske tilpasninger i ulike lands forvaltningspolitikk, for eksempel gjennom bruk av løsninger som kan forbindes med «New Public Management» eller med «New Public Governance».

Reformene og organisasjonsendringene tar ulik form i de nordiske landene. Ideene om konkurranseutsetting og valgfrihet har for eksempel fått størst utbredelse i den svenske kommunesektoren. Videre har strukturreformen gjort kommunesammenslåing til det sentrale i Danmark, mens interkommunale samarbeid er svært sentralt både i finsk og i norsk sammenheng – ikke minst som en følge av den norske «samhandlingsreformen» hvor kommunene er tillagt nye oppgaver på helsefeltet. Det er også variasjon mellom landene når det gjelder i hvilken grad vi finner såpass ulike kjennetegn som resultatorienterte styringssystemer, internkontroll og overvåking, utførerorganisering gjennom selskap (bolag) – og samarbeid og samhandling på tvers av sektorgrenser, forvaltningsnivå og offentlig og privat. Og den statlige styringen kan variere så vel mellom landene, som mellom ulike politikkområder.

Ulike organisatoriske og styringsmessige løsninger påvirker rammebetingelsene for lokalpolitikkerne, og kan på ulike måter utfordre den demokratiske styringskjeden og lokalpolitikkenes legitimitet. Relasjonen mellom stat og kommune, mellom politikere, administrasjon og de alternative utførerne lokalt, så vel som mellom lokalpolitikkerne og innbyggerne må (re)defineres og håndteres. Arbeidsgruppen vil rette fokus mot forskjeller og likheter i typene av organisatoriske former, styrings- og kontrollgrep i de nordiske landene, og mot de konsekvenser og utfordringer ulike løsninger gir for utøvelse av lokalpolitikk – og dermed for lokaldemokratiet.

Målgrupp

Arbeidsgruppen henvender seg til forskere som er opptatt av reformer og organisatoriske tilpasninger med utgangspunkt i kommunene som lokaldemokratiske arenaer, så vel som med utgangspunkt i spesifikke politikkområder som for eksempel helse, omsorg og miljø. Studier av utfordringer for lokalpolitikken i enkelte land ønskes velkommen, og komparative studier vil bli prioritert.

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Arbetsgrupp 32

Parlament och regeringar

Parlamenten och regeringarna ställs inför nya utmaningar och krav. Workshopen fokuserar på de nya krav som ställs både externt och internt.

Vilka krav och utmaningar kan man skönja? Hur kommer de att påverka den politiska vitaliteten i de europeiska parlamenten och relationerna mellan parlamenten och regeringarna? Vilka konsekvenser har dessa krav? Vem riktas de till? Hur manifesteras de? Kommer parlamentens makt att öka eller att minska? Hurdana reaktioner kan man förvänta sig från dels de etablerade, dels de informella politiska aktörerna?

Gruppen är öppen och tillåtande vad olika metodiska och teoretiska ansatser och perspektiv beträffar. Särskilt välkomnas komparativa uppsatser. Det är en angelägen forskningsuppgift i sig att kartlägga och jämföra de nya kraven som ställs på de europeiska parlamenten och regeringarna. Vi är också intresserade av att finna variationer inom och mellan de olika politiska systemen.

Gruppen har en lång NOPSA-historia och vill säkert vara attraktiv för nordiska parlaments- och regeringsforskare.

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Workshop 33

The production of 'crisis' knowledge: the role of international think tanks and NGOs

Living in a world fraught with violent conflicts and international interventions, global policy-makers face an urgent need for timely knowledge about areas in conflict. Policy-relevant conflict knowledge is produced and diffused by many actors, including specialised units in international organisations, their branch offices and on-site missions; specific fact-finding missions; lessons learnt units and evaluators; the media etc. Among these manifold knowledge producers, however, specific think tanks and NGOs specialising in conflict-related knowledge production have emerged as central players in the market of conflict- and peace building-related knowledge and policy ideas since the 1990s. The International Crisis Group (ICG), founded in 1995, is one paramount example of such a highly visible and influential conflict knowledge expert.

The media lobbying campaigns of ICG and similar organisations have undoubtedly not only helped raise awareness about wars and conflicts in areas, which are often neglected by the international community; it has also had an influence on how these conflicts are defined and thereby also on what policy approaches have been designed towards them. In view of its presence in, and possible influence on, policy circles, media and not least academic works about conflict areas, it is surprising that they have not gained much attention as a scientific study object so far. Apart from the selected information that these organisations themselves provides about their work, we know little about how they work. Although their influence may differ from crisis to crisis and case to case, there seems to be a general agreement among policy makers that these actors and the knowledge they provide and publish cannot be ignored.

How exactly a situation is framed as crisis by these conflict knowledge producers? Which effects has this on policy-making regarding responses to conflicts and strategies of peace-building? Which repercussions the crisis has on those who have contributed to its construction? These questions remain a lacuna and have not yet been comprehensively studied. This NOPSA workshop therefore invites papers that address the role of such think tanks and NGOs and their role in the production of 'crisis knowledge' from different perspectives and approaches.

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Arbeidsgruppe 34

Valg og politisk atferd

I denne arbeidsgruppen ønsker vi å sette søkelys på studier av velgeratferd både nasjonalt og komparativt. Moderne samfunn er blitt mer omskiftelige der sosiale strukturer endres, velgerne skifter oftere parti, mens partiidentifikasjonen synker og valgdeltakelsen er under press. Det stilles spørsmål ved partienes evne til å mobilisere medlemmer og velgere, samtidig som tilliten til partier og politikere synker. Samtidig er mediene en viktig aktør i spillet mellom parti og velger. Disse utviklingstrekkene gjør seg i varierende grad gjeldende i moderne demokratier. Forklaringsmodeller basert på sosial struktur har fått konkurranse fra mer saks- og verdiorienterte modeller. I arbeidsgruppen ønsker vi bidrag som dekker spillet mellom partier og velgere på bred basis. Det gjelder f.eks. studier av partivalg og sosial struktur, holdninger og verdier og partiidentifikasjon. I tillegg vil studier av politisk deltakelse og valgkamp falle innenfor temaet for denne arbeidsgruppen. Formålet med arbeidsgruppen er å samle et bredt register av teoretiske og empiriske tilnærminger til studiet av politisk atferd. Et viktig formål med arbeidsgruppen er å stimulere til samarbeid på tvers av de nordiske land. Papers med et nordisk komparativt perspektiv er særlig velkomne. Papers kan være på engelsk eller på et skandinavisk språk.

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Arbetsgrupp 35

Nordiska Velfärdsstater – är de idealmodeller eller nedmonteringsobjekt?

I internationell litteratur diskuteras de Nordiska Velfärdsmodellerna som exempel på omfördelningsmekanismer som skapar goda och likvärdiga förutsättningar för medborgarna att leva sina livsprojekt. Jämligare fördelning av resurser mellan de som har och de som inte har framförts under den innevarande recessionen som en allt mer attraktiv lösning av ekonomer som Paul Krugman, Robin Wells, Michael Lewis m fl.

Velfärdsmodellerna utgörs av försäkringssystem som omfördelar inkomstrisker över livscykeln (om du blir sjuk, arbetslös eller gammal) men innebär också en skattemässig omfördelning av resurser för att tillhandahålla olika slag av välfärdstjänster (hälso- och sjukvård, skola, omsorg). I de Nordiska velfärdsmodellerna har staten spelat en betydande roll då det gäller lagstiftning, finansiering och organisering av dessa system; men på senare år har modellerna kommit att ifrågasättas på olika grunder. Genom en tydligare prägel av New Public Management har välfärdssystemen kompletterats med olika privata utförarmodeller, i vissa fall diskuteras finansieringsmixen mellan offentliga resurser och privata resurser, och genom att fler olika utförare har tillkommit (governanceprocesser) har välfärdens överskådlighet och kvalitet kommit att förändras. Vissa hävdar att detta innebär Velfärdens nedmontering, medan andra hävdar att Velfärdsstaten står starkare inför framtidens utmaningar.

Denna arbetsgrupp bjuder in texter till denna generella diskussion, där centrala teman exempelvis kan vara staternas nya syn på sin välfärd; trimmade eller försvagade välfärdsstater genom NPM; samt allmänhetens ideologi, förväntningar eller förtroende i relation till välfärdens institutioner. Både generellt hållna bidrag och bidrag som diskuterar en avgränsad del av välfärdsstaten välkomnas.

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Workshop 36

The Nordic welfare model in transition

The welfare model in all the Nordic countries has gone through fairly extensive changes. These changes raise a number of questions: Does the Nordic welfare model still exist? What challenges does it face? What sort of policy-processes has produced the changes? What are the effects of the changes? What do the perceptions of the general public look like and how do they affect political attitudes? Are the Nordic countries similar or different in relation to the above mentioned aspects?

In the Nordic welfare model we do not only include cash benefits like pensions or the unemployment benefit, but also welfare services like education, health care, child care and elder care. We welcome studies using varying methodologies, e.g. single and particularly comparative case-studies as well as statistical analyses and discourse analyses that in different ways shed light on one or more of the questions mentioned above.

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Workshop 37

International Political Theory

Contemporary political theory takes increasing interest in questions arising in the international realm. Whereas political theorists have long addressed international issues such as just warfare and sovereignty, a great leap forward is currently underway in the normative analysis of a wider set of international issues, including environmental degradation, poverty and development, and the global economic system. This development has arguably been driven by cosmopolitan individualists, who assert that every human being lays claim to equal concern and respect. This view fundamentally questions the traditional view that obligations of justice and morality within a state is much different from the obligations outside it. In recent years, however, the cosmopolitan-individualist approach has been challenged by various statist and nationalist views. These views have sought to explain and justify why international political theory cannot simply be seen as domestic political theory writ large. The result is an exciting field, rich in problems pertaining to the standing in an international context of concepts such political obligations, distributive justice, rights, individual moral duties, and collective self-determination. Contributing to this field, the workshop invites papers on fundamental conceptual and normative issues in international political theory as well more applied papers dealing with a particular problem in international politics, e.g., climate change, fair trade, war and humanitarian intervention, and development aid.

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